

Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

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Montgomery Council Seeks Applicants for Clarksburg Infrastructure Working Group

Applications Due By Friday, Nov. 19, to Serve on Task Force Exploring Alternatives to Development Districts To Pay for Emerging Upcounty Community's Infrastructure Improvements

ROCKVILLE, Md., November 5, 2010—The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants to serve on a new Clarksburg Infrastructure Working Group that will review and prioritize the necessary infrastructure items for the Clarksburg area and propose suitable mechanisms to finance the recommended infrastructure for the emerging upcounty community.

Creation of the task force was approved as the Council voted on Oct. 19 to terminate the Clarksburg Town Center Development District. Implementation of the development district would have levied a special annual assessment on the community's residents to fund specific public infrastructure.

Applications to serve on the Clarksburg Infrastructure Working Group must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 19. The group will have 11 members who are scheduled to be appointed by the Council on Nov. 30. The group will start meeting soon after its creation, with a report expected to be delivered by April 1 for review by the Council and County Executive Isiah Leggett.

The working group is designed to have one member who has expertise or significant background in municipal financing; four members of the Clarksburg community; two representatives of the building industry; two representatives of the County Executive; one representative from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission; and one additional member.

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The Oct. 19 vote did not directly affect two other development districts proposed for Clarksburg—the Clarksburg Village and Clarksburg Skylark development districts. However, it decreases the likelihood of them going forward.

The County's development district law was enacted in 1994 and rewritten in 2008. The concept would dedicate special assessments from property owners to pay for specific infrastructure (streets, libraries, parks etc.) for those communities. By dedicating the funds, development districts would allow new communities to get infrastructure built more quickly, rather than competing with all parts of the County for limited funds.

The Clarksburg Town Center Development District was created in 2003 to cover residences built over an unincorporated area of approximately 247 acres. Resolution 15-87, which created the district, listed specific infrastructure items that it would finance, including road improvements, a library, enhancements for the planned Clarksburg Village South local park and improvements to local trails. Assessments collected were to be paid to a special fund used to pay off bonds that would pay for those items.

It was originally estimated that property owners in the Clarksburg Town Center Development District would pay an annual assessment of about \$1,200.

Those interested in serving on the Clarksburg Infrastructure Working Group should submit letters, with resume, to: Clarksburg Infrastructure Working Group, c/o Council President Nancy Floreen, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850. Applications must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 19. It is the Council's policy not to consider applications received after the deadline.